9. Regarding foreign students, the following instructions have been issued:

(i) all the foreign students are to be screened (new and old admission).

(ii) the foreign students should subject themselves for health check to the nearest Civil Surgeon/CMOH/Suptd. of District Hospital for the purpose.

(c) and (d) Under the strategy, it has been proposed to set up one surveillance centre in each State. As present 27 surveillance centre are functioning. In addition, 4 referral centres have also been established. Depending upon the need, additional surveillance centres will be provided to the States.

Change in the Examination System

983. SHRI J.P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RECOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a research study conducted by the NCERT has suggested that continuous evaluation and frequent testing with feedback should form an integral part of the examination system in all the schools;

(b) whether all educationists and administrators have bitterly denounced the present examination system; and

(c) if so, what is the reaction of Government in regard to the suggestions and recommendations made by the study team of the NCERT?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RECOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) The NCERT has not conducted any specific research study but has convened workshops and seminars to discuss the problem. The current thinking that continuous evaluation be built into the teaching-learning process is an integral part of the National Policy on Education. (Item 8.24). This is an outcome of the wide ranging discussion and deliberations among academicians and educational administrators all over the country.

(b) Yes, Sir. Educationists and Administrators have been of the opinion that the present system of examinations suffers from many defects.

(c) As reflected in the National Policy on Education 1986 and the Programme of Action, the Government feels the urgent need to reform the examination system. Specific measures to implement these ideas are contemplated over a period of time.

Surplus Employees of Indian Telephone Industries

984. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 13,000 employees of Indian Telephone Industries will be rendered surplus from its Bangalore and Rae Bareli units owing to freezing of orders by the Department of Telecommunications;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and reasons therefor;

(c) whether these employees are likely to be absorbed; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Indian Telephone Industries (ITI) is at present producing crossbar and strowger electro-mechanical switching equipment at its Bangalore and Rae Bareli factories. These equipments have become obsolete and do not meet the quality and reliability requirements of a modern telecommunication netwowrk. They are also not proving cost effective.

Accordingly it has been proposed to phase out the electro-mechanical switching equipment production at Rae